

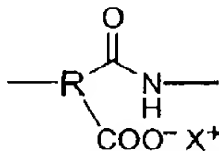
D-20752-1

In the claims:

Please amend claims 1, 3, 4 and 8 as follows:

B¹²

1. (Twice Amended) A polyimide article formed from a polyamic acid salt precursory article by thermal or chemical imidization, wherein said polyamic acid salt precursory article is formed from a casting solution containing from 0.01% to 20 % by volume of tertiary amines or water, wherein said polyamic acid salt precursory article contains the following radicals:



wherein R is a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic, alicyclic, heterocyclic, or aliphatic radical; and

X is an ammonium ion, a phosphonium ion, a sulfonium ion, a protonated tertiary amine or a quaternary amine or a mixture thereof.

B¹³

3. (Once amended) The fluid separation membrane of claim 2 wherein said tertiary amine in said casting solution is the same as the protonated tertiary amine used to form the counter-ion X of said polyamic acid salt precursory article.

4. (Once amended) The fluid separation membrane of claim 2 wherein said tertiary amine in said casting solution is different from the protonated tertiary amine used to form the counter-ion X of said polyamic acid salt precursory article.

B¹⁴

8. (Twice amended) A polyimide fluid separation membrane wherein the polyimide membrane is a composite membrane formed by the following process: a) forming a coating solution of a polyamic acid salt polymer in a solvent system that contains from 0.01% to 20 % by volume of tertiary amine or water; b) applying said coating solution to a porous substrate to form a coated substrate; c) solidifying said coating solution by drying or by immersing said coated substrate into a non solvent; d) converting said coated substrate having the solidified coating into a final polyimide composite membrane by thermal or chemical treatment.